

Torrance Herald

Established 1914
GLENN W. PFEIL
Publisher

REID L. BUNDY - Managing Editor

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1964

Back to the Lessons

It's all over, as you probably noticed before you got this far.

More than 16,000 Torrance voters visited the polls Tuesday and substantially more than half of them voted to raise the ceiling on the tax rate for Torrance school purposes from its current \$2.90 per \$100 of assessed valuation to \$3.30 per \$100 beginning next year.

The margin of victory was substantial—officially it stood at 9,518 "yes" to 6,821 "no" when all the precincts were tallied Tuesday night.

While the margin of victory was comfortable—probably wider than many school officials had dared hope—the victory does not give the board and the administration a "carte blanche" to spend.

Torrance parents and taxpayers (and they're largely the same), want a good education for the city's children at the most reasonable cost.

Reasonable, logical costs will be supported; spending which seems beyond the reasonable or logical will be challenged.

The school district has been assured of minimum financing for the next few years. Now, it's back to the job of teaching.

Scouts in Church

Observance of the 54th anniversary of the Boy Scouts in America will be highlighted this weekend with the traditional "Boy Scout Sunday" ceremonies in the various churches of the nation. Members of the Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Explorers will attend their own churches in uniform with their parents as a highlight of Boy Scout Week which begins Friday.

Religious awards earned by scouts during the year for their work with and for their churches and synagogues will be presented during the weekend, attesting to the close relationship between the Scout and his minister or religious counselor.

"The awards help Scouts and Explorers to grow spiritually, it helps them practice duty to God, to be reverent, and to be faithful in their religious duties," according to Daniel Bryant, chairman of the Council Relationship Committee of the Los Angeles Area Council.

While the Boy Scouts is not a religious teaching movement, the group believes that no boy can grow to a successful manhood without a firm belief in God.

Each religious award, while not part of the Boy Scout awards program, is provided by the scout's religious group.

Each such award requires the scout to learn the history of his church, become familiar with the Scriptures, and take an active part in his church or synagogue service as well as give personal service to special projects assigned by his minister, priest, or rabbi.

As you attend services in your church or synagogue this weekend, look around and make a note of the Boy Scouts sitting in the services with you. They are probably tomorrow's church leaders, and tomorrow's community and national leaders.

That's the way the Boy Scouts train them.

Opinions of Others

The price of gasoline in Cuba has been increased from 34 cents to 60 cents a gallon "in the interest of the national economy," according to a news dispatch from Havana. That 60-cent price is twice as high as the average United States gallon of gasoline including taxes, and three times the cost of a U. S. gallon before taxes. Castro said the price hike provides a new avenue for Cubans to make a greater contribution to progress. According to reports from newsmen who have visited Cuba recently, a little more Castro-type "progress" may put the island out of business entirely.—Wadena (Minn.) Pioneer Journal.

Continual demands are made for economies and efficiency in governmental operations. But when the government tries to institute economies and efficiency the people complain bitterly, and all the politicians raise continual howls of anguish. As a result the government is damned if it tries to economize, and damned if it does not. . . so many of the government's financial problems are caused by pork barrel projects, such as unnecessary water projects, dams, roads, and the like, which are purely political favors and done for campaign purposes, until these are stopped there can be no true economy.—Walterboro (S.C.) Press and Standard.

It may be difficult to predict the exact direction of the power hungry bureaucrats' next move but you can safely bet that it will involve expansion of the federal government's control over the affairs of states and communities. Just when you think that the limit has been reached, that the bureaucrats could not possibly find any new areas for encroachment, they spring up with a barrage of new regulatory moves.—Somerset (Ky.) Journal.

We cannot find in the record of prehistoric, ancient, or modern history—not even among man's best laws, the answer for the security of life, property, or liberty. Kingdoms and empires wane and fall. Civilizations appear with great promise and then, apparently, automatically disappear. It is here believed that man's attempt to interpret life in terms of material things divorces him from the creative energies of his own life that would make him secure.—Nashville (Tenn.) National Baptist Union-Review.

Ten years ago the U. S. Army revealed that more than 6,000 American servicemen had been murdered, tortured, starved, or subjected to other bestial treatment by their Communist captors during the Korean War. How quickly we forget.—New Orleans (La.) Independent American.

Might Endure The Loud Stereo



ROYCE BRIER

FTC Gets Case of Nerves Over the Cigarette Flap

The Federal Trade Commission is a useful public body. It is comprised of teams of experts in interstate commerce, their legal staffs, fieldmen and computer operators. There are also theorists in the function of government in regulation of a vast economy.

FTC has long policed advertising in an effort to suppress misrepresentation, an acceptable function.

But now it is caught up in the flutter of wings over the Surgeon General's report on cigarette smoking, and it needs something to quiet its nerves. Some Congressmen have pounced on the issue, avid to make their constituents healthy, but FTC says it doesn't need new law.

According to reports from Washington, the commission plans to jump right in and change the entire advertising structure of the tobacco industry.

This clearly means no more beautiful television dolls strolling

by babbling brooks or scrambling from foaming surf to be greeted by a handsome swain for a smoke. Or at least they will have to grimace. It also goes for sequined babes in magazines, and for those crashing bores, the athletes.

To quote the dispatch, FTC will try to force "elimination from cigarette advertising of all indication that people 'feel good' when smoking, that smoking is a social grace . . . or a part of sophisticated living."

But give this a second thought, and it occurs to you maybe FTC is flying pretty high for an outfit designed to deal in pig-iron and toothpaste. It occurs to you the bourbon folk tell you their product is smooth as silk, and even the automobile folk suggest their ride is ecstatic, and prove it by draping Suzy Parker, the model, over a convertible steering wheel.

What makes you "feel good?" It's a warm puppy

question—maybe absence of arthritis, winning a ball game, having your girl show up on time. But if I say a martini or a cigar makes me feel good, you may say they make you feel bad, and we're both right, and have the right to say so.

Who are the gentlemen of FTC to define "social grace," or the means of achieving it? Can they sensibly say one means is legal, another illegal? The Surgeon General says too many cigarettes over the years will jeopardize your health, but so will too much cake—and cake-mix pictures are quite as alluring as cigarette pictures.

Misrepresentation is manifestly phony if you're alert, and the unwary must be protected. But in this projected crusade to make an advertised product, if it is legal, seem vaguely illegal and deleterious, FTC is out of its depth, and moving into the domain of arbitrary censorship of the advertised word.

James Dorias

Speculations on Panama Lead to Strange Places

Allen Drury, the author of the best seller "Advise and Consent," possesses a high degree of prescience.

His second novel, "A Shade of Difference," written in 1962, is largely concerned with American troubles with Panama, stemming from disputes over the Panama Canal. In his description of imagined events, numerous American commentators, columnists and pundits are only too ready to reject Stephen Decatur's famous slogan, "our country, right or wrong," and rally to its universe; "the other person's country, right or wrong."

Today, the United States is faced with demands from the Republic of Panama to relinquish the Canal Zone. No matter that the occupancy of the canal is vested with the United States in perpetuity by treaty, that the Canal was built by the United States, that the Panama Canal Company makes no profits, that its rates for ships of all the world's nations have never been raised since the Canal was built, that its commerce furnishes one-sixth of Panama's income.

True to Drury's prediction, voices are raised throughout the land that Panama's nationalistic designs on the Zone are justified, that American nationals living in the Zone are guilty of chauvinism, and that the U. S. should abandon its treaty rights and throw the whole dispute into "negotiation."

Should the United States

government yield to the voices of appeasement and relinquish the Canal to Panama, the precedent could lead to interesting results.

Take the case, for example, of the 49th state, Alaska. This

Quote

On a ship there is only one captain. It's the same in marriage; the captain has to be the man. — Douglas Hertz, San Francisco.

We are all in the same boat, bigotry hits us all in different places, in different ways. — Dorothy Hoisington, Lakeport.

If we need to hand out money on a free basis to every Tom, Dick, and Harry, around the world, then we need a new State Department from cellar to garret.—W. P. Morgan Sr., M. D., Covina.

If public opinion is the criteria of the good life, then: moral decay and oblivion, here we come! — Edwin T. Jones, Whittier.

I would not be happy living in this day and time if I did not do something to contribute to the welfare of this nation. — Lulu Carter, teacher for handicapped children.

If you're going to be afraid all your life, you might as well fold up your tent, stay home, and miss everything. — Mildren Capron.

AFTER HOURS By John Morley

Some Random Notes Taken During A Visit in Europe

ATHENS — Europe has a reputation for the novel, for it is a mixture of scores of prevailing cultures and ethnologies.

Hollywood or Greenwich Village are small fry in innovation and being "different" compared to the daring and unpredictability of today's Europeans.

The following are from my scribbled notes in Lisbon, Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Belgrade, Athens, of the unusual and rather interesting things I saw and heard.

BERLIN — Abortion is almost as serious a threat here as the Communist wall. The ministry of health released the shocking news that two million abortions were performed in West Germany in a ten-month period. Another "fad" is the sterilization of women . . . 1,300 a month.

LISBON — The price of a taxi is still less in the daytime . . . battate is extra.

PARIS — Water on Air France comes in sealed cans on your dinner tray.

If traveling on a budget, stay away from Paris. The service charge and tax adds 24 per cent to your hotel bill. A second rate single room with a dingy bath in Paris costs from \$15, plus the extras.

The French are working a good thing to death.

BERLIN — The Berlin Post office is open until 10 p.m., six days a week. The schools and workweek are for six days. Is it any wonder that Germany has had the greatest recovery in the world?

Taxes are lower in West Berlin than all West Germany, to induce investment so close to the Communist border. It's really quite a gamble, yet the Germans are pouring in millions of marks . . . and it looks it.

It's hard to find an impolite person in Germany. It's the only place I've been on this trip where motorists stop for pedestrians.

VIENNA — This is the cleanest and most orderly city I know . . . and among the most beautiful for natural setting . . . combining the real and the esthetic. Music and symphony spreads out from its historic concert halls, to the streets and rooftops. And then there are the Vienna woods . . . and the tales they tell in music.

BERLIN — I saw an ingenious way to sell German lottery tickets. A street vendor had a parrot picking them out of a box. His competitor, a few feet away, must have wished he owned the trained bird . . . for the parrot was doing a land-office business, all by himself.

EAST BERLIN — Russia needs vodka so badly it has the East Germans working Sundays to produce it on their days off. The inducement: Overtime pay at 88 cents and probably a drink of vodka which no respectable German will touch.

Prices in East Germany are almost double those in West Berlin . . . and for inferior merchandise.

I had a gloomy two days in East Berlin and was detained for questioning seven times.

VIENNA — Even in the newly-erected, or remodeled, modern hotels, they still add to your bill a price for heat . . . but there is a phone over the bathtub.

BELGRADE — I saw a U.S. Army engineer group enroute to the earthquake-destroyed city of Skopje. They will construct 250 prefab houses in time for the worst winter in Yugoslavia. Thousands lined up in Belgrade to cheer them.

BERLIN CORRIDOR — As our plane prepared for land-

ing at Berlin's Tempelhof airport in the stormy night . . . the Communists turned on strong searchlights aimed at the pilot's cockpit creating a serious hazard. The blinding light covered the entire aircraft. Is there no limit to our patience?

PARIS — The foreign diplomatic corps here keeps predicting that the Republicans will nominate Richard Nixon for president and Barry Goldwater for vice president.

VIENNA — Under the Russian-Austrian Peace treaty, Russia has extracted a guarantee of the right to maintain a Communist monument and rounda in the center of Vienna. On top of the monument is a bronze Soviet soldier in commemoration of victory.

The Austrians have nicknamed this soldier "St. Kleptomanius" (for Kleptomaniac), according to Rudolph Kochler, my old and faithful friend in the Pan-American Airways Vienna office. "He is the only Russian soldier who didn't steal, as he is made of metal."

ENROUTE OVER BUDAPEST — The stocky Communist stewardess on Hungarian airlines at 2 p.m. came up and asked me if I would like breakfast. The "breakfast" consisted of non-appetizing sausage, meat loaf, a piece of raw veal and beer. It was even late for brunch.

BERLIN — In checking my flight departure from the East East Berlin Communist-controlled airport, I was forced to relay my call from less than two blocks on the

west side of the Berlin wall, through Leipzig, many miles away.

There is no direct phone communications between East and West Berlin.

BELGRADE — Even though Belgrade is fast becoming a modern city . . . thanks to \$2.5 billion of U.S. aid . . . black-bordered printed notices are still permitted to be nailed to the trees near the area of the deceased. It's an ominous warning side by side with billboards advertising automobiles and motor scooters.

OFF BELGRADE'S SMED-ERVO — A female bootblack charged one half the rate (3 cents) of her male competitors. The male bootblack simply replied to my query why it was so, that "women are worth less" . . . maybe in Yugoslavia!

ATHENS — At the Grande Bretagne, I saw General Van Fleet, under whose command I served in the Korean war as a correspondent. When he heard I was on my way to Vietnam he remarked that "the only way to clean up the mess there was for the U.S. to go in and fight the Communists — or get out of Vietnam altogether."

There was a novel traffic light system in Athens' Constitution Square. Where the green and red lights show, there is a figure of a pedestrian. On the red light the figure stands still . . . on the first stages of the green light the figure moves normally . . . but just before the red flashes again, the pedestrian figure is made to run.

Our Man Hoppe

Man of the Week General Hoo Dat

Art Hoppe

Let us pause today to salute the leader of our loyal allies in South Vietnam. Whoever he may be today. For we have won another smashing victory. Not over the guerrillas, exactly. But over neutralism.

Yes sir, this new general who overthrew the junta which deposed President Diem who succeeded Emperor Bao Dai says he is violently opposed to neutralism. Which, he says, is why he overthrew the junta. Which, the junta said, is why it overthrew Mr. Diem. And so on.

Of course, this latest coup meant our military advisers had to cancel a major offensive scheduled for the very next morning. But that's the way it goes. Indeed, oddly enough that's the way it went for years in the neighboring bastion of democracy called West Vhtnng, the only Asian bastion I'm an expert on.

It was in the 37th year of our lightning campaign to wipe out the dread Vietnarians, who were all Moscow-trained peasants. The benevolent leader of Vhtnng at the time was General Hoo Dat, who had recently overthrown General Hoo Dar, successor of deposed General Hoo Nhow, who followed Daw Ghakt. And January was only half over.

In Washington, our Secretary of Defense, gravely concerned, issued a clarifying statement. "The war is going amazingly well," he said proudly. "Except we are losing our shirts."

This alarmed our military advisers in the field, who immediately advised an all-out offensive, advising the Loyal Royal Army, as usual, "to fight to the death" for their beloved Vhtnng. Or else. And this, as usual, panicked the Loyal Royal Army.

An emergency meeting of the High Command is called, "Gentlemen," says General Hoo Nhow, "there is no question that if our ferocious Loyal Royal troops hone their bayonets, arm themselves to the teeth, and hurl themselves upon the enemy, that awful catastrophe we have carefully avoided for 37 years will occur: Somebody will get hurt."

There are gasps of horror from the assembled generals. "Maybe," Says General Hoo Dar hesitantly, "It would be best to give up the long struggle and allow ourselves to be neutralized."

"What!" cries General Hoo Nhow. "And lose that \$1 million a day in American aid? Why, the economy of our nation is at stake. Not to mention our villas on the Riviera. No, we have no choice. We must go through the usual routine."

"So soon?" complains General Hoo Dat. "It's not fair. I only got to be leader for three days."

"Let's not allow personal ambition to interfere with the good of our country," says General Hoo Nhow sternly. "All right, gentlemen. Draw straws."

So I'm convinced these constant coups by the Vietnamese generals against the Vietnamese general really are victories over neutralism. In a way. But I'm not at all sure neutralizing Vietnam's a bad idea. In fact, it gets more and more appealing. With each passing coup.

At the very least, I say, let us begin. Let us make a start in the right direction. For the sake of unity and clarity, let's neutralize the Vietnam Army.

(Distributed by Chronicle Features)



"Wives have been managing the news for years—they never tell you about dented fenders until after you have eaten."